REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending. Claims 1 and 22 have been amended. Claims 1-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,172,669 to Murphy et al. ("Murphy") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,657,055 to Kansal et al. ("Kansal"). In view of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and asks that they be withdrawn. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Late Receipt of the Office Action

Applicant received the office action dated July 17, 2003 on December 15, 2003. Therefore, Applicant is concurrently filing a petition under 1160 OG 14, requesting the patent office to restart the response period for response to the office action.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 1

Claim 1 is patentable over the combination of Murphy and Kansal because there is no motivation to modify Murphy to include the feature of "determining when the pixel data reaches the indicator; and loading data for the next video line into the

line buffer based on the determining when the pixel data reaches the indicator," as recited in claim 1.

The office action acknowledges that Murphy does not teach this feature of claim 1, but alleges that a combination of Murphy and Kansal is obvious because it "takes advantage of idle system memory bus and allows other devices to give earlier access to the system." (Please see page 3, paragraph 5 of the office action).

However, such a hypothetical combination would render Murphy unsuitable for its intended purpose. As suck this combination would not be made by one having ordinary skill in the art. (Please see MPEP 2143.02).

Murphy discloses systems and techniques for transferring video and graphic data from a frame buffer to a display system in a manner which permits operation with a reduced memory bandwidth. (Please see the Abstract of Murphy).

Murphy teaches that, in order to reduce the necessary bandwidth, graphic and video data is transferred as follows. "For those scan lines of the display in which the video information appears, video data is retrieved from the frame buffer during the horizontal blanking time of the scan. Graphical data is retrieved from the memory during the active portion of each horizontal scan line. By alternating the

retrieval of data in this manner, rather than attempting to retrieve video and graphic data simultaneously, a lower bandwidth operation can be employed, thereby reducing the expenses of the memory." (Emphasis added, please see column 2, line 63 to column 3 line 4 of Murphy; please also see column 7 line 11 to 29 and Figure 7 of Murphy).

That is, Murphy obtains its bandwidth reduction by transferring data into video line buffer 44 after the line buffer is empty (during the horizontal blanking time). Murphy reserves the active portion of the horizontal scan line for transfer of graphic data. Thus, modifying Murphy to transfer data into video line buffer 44 based on determining when the pixel data reaches the indicator in the line buffer (i.e. during the active portion of the horizontal scan line) goes against Murphy's express teaching, and renders Murphy unsuitable for its intended purpose.

For at least the above reason, claim 1 is patentable over the combination of Murphy and Kansal.

Claims 2-23

Independent claims 8, 14, 18, and 22 include features similar to the above-referenced feature of claim 1, and so are patentable for at least the same reasons. Claims 2-7, 9-13, 15-

17, 19-21, and 22 depend from claims 1, 8, 14, and 22 and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons as well.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes claims 1-23 to be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to that effect. the Examiner has any questions regarding this response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (858) 678-5070.

As noted above, Applicant received the office action on December 15, 2003, and therefore is petitioning to restart the response period. Because the U.S. Postal Service is responsible for the delay, Applicant believes that no extension fees are due. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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